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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, comprising administering to said patient a compound that antagonizes the CB1 cannabinoid 1 receptor and inhibits the enzyme 11 β -HSD1 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 in an amount that is effective to treat obesity, said compound having an ion channel activity level greater than about 2 μ M.

Claim 2 (Original) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 1, wherein the ion channel is the Na, K or Ca ion channel.

Claim 3 (Original) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 2 wherein the compound has an ion channel activity level greater than about 2 μ M in the Na, K and Ca ion channels.

Claim 4 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment in accordance with claim 3 wherein the compound is a selective antagonist of the CB1 cannabinoid 1 receptor and a selective inhibitor of the enzyme 11 β -HSD1 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1.

Claim 5 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in accordance with claim 4 wherein the compound that antagonizes the CB1 cannabinoid 1 receptor is at least about 10 fold selective for the CB1 cannabinoid 1 receptor over the CB2 cannabinoid 2 receptor.

Claim 6 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in accordance with claim 5 wherein the compound that antagonizes the CB1 cannabinoid 1 receptor is from about 10 fold selective to about 1000 fold selective for the CB1 cannabinoid 1 receptor over the CB2 cannabinoid 2 receptor.

Claim 7 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in accordance with claim 4 wherein the compound that selectively inhibits the enzyme 11 β -HSD1 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase is at least about 10 fold selective for 11 β -HSD1 over the enzyme 11 β -HSD2 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in accordance with claim 6 wherein the compound that inhibits the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD1~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase is from about 10 fold selective to about 1000 fold selective for the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD1~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase over the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD2~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment or prevention, in accordance with claim 4 wherein the compound administered antagonizes the ~~CB1~~ cannabinoid 1 receptor at an IC₅₀ of about 100 nM or less.

Claim 10 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 4 wherein the compound administered selectively inhibits the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD1~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase at an IC₅₀ of about 100 nM or less.

Claim 11 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 4 wherein the compound administered that antagonizes the ~~CB1~~ cannabinoid 1 receptor and inhibits the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD1~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase does not substantially antagonize the receptor CB2.

Claim 12 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 11 wherein the compound administered does not substantially inhibit the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD2~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase.

Claim 13 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 11 wherein the compound administered has an IC₅₀ against ~~CB2~~ cannabinoid 2 receptors of about 300 nM or higher.

Claim 14 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment in accordance with claim 12 wherein the compound administered has an IC₅₀ against the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD2~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase of at least about 1 μ M.

Claims 15-24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25 (Currently amended) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, comprising administering a compound that antagonizes ~~CB1~~ cannabinoid 1 receptors and antagonizes the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD1~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase in an amount effective to treat obesity, with the proviso that the compound is not SR141716A.

Claim 26 (Original) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 25, with the further proviso that the compound is not AM-251.

Claim 27 (Original) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment, in accordance with claim 26, with the further proviso that the compound is not AM-281.

Claim 28 (Currently amended) A method of preventing obesity in a human patient in need of such prevention, comprising administering to said patient a compound that antagonizes the ~~CB1~~ cannabinoid 1 receptor and inhibits the enzyme ~~11 β -HSD1~~ 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase in an amount that is effective to prevent obesity, said compound having an ion channel activity level greater than about 2 μ M.